



# LA BELLE ASSEMBLÉE,

FOR OCTOBER, 1830.

## ILLUSTRATIVE MEMOIR OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE ADELAIDE, BARONESS RIBBLESDALE.

ADELAIDE LISTER, eldest daughter of Thomas Lister, Esq., was married to her cousin, the Honourable Thomas Lister, the present Baron Ribblesdale, of Gisburne Park, in the West Riding of the county of York, on the 9th of February, 1826.

The noble family of Lister is of great antiquity in the county of York. For more than five hundred years, its chief residence has been at Gisburne, in Craven. "Gisburne Park," observes Dr. Whittaker, in his History of Craven, "is beautifully situated at the confluence of the Ribble and the Stockbeck; and the house, with much simplicity, has a very elegant and pleasing effect. The noble owner may congratulate himself on the possession of two residences admirably adapted to the varieties of our climate; for if an epicure in air and weather were permitted to make his own choice in Craven, he could scarcely be better accommodated than by the warm and sheltered air of Stockbeck in winter, and the keen and invigorating atmosphere of Malhamwater in its proper season."

These demesnes appear to have come to the family about the year 1312, by the marriage of John, son of Sir Thomas Lister, with Isabel, daughter and heiress of John de Bolton, bow-bearer of Bolland; from which John Lister, Thomas, the pre-

sent Lord Ribblesdale, is the eighteenth in lineal descent. "The above Isabel, it is believed, also, was descended through the illustrious families of Clare, Gant, and Roumare, from the old Saxon Earls of Mercia; William de Roumare, one of the great Norman Barons, having, after the Conquest, married Lucy, sister and heiress of Edwin, the last Earl; and thereby possessing, as it is quoted by Sir William Dugdale, '*Cravennam, et Coup-landiam, et Allerdale, et Cockeram, jure hereditario.*'"

John Lister, second in descent from the first-mentioned John, inherited the estate of Midhope from his grandmother, Isabel Bolton; "the manor of Midhope, one of the most extensive and valuable farms in Craven, having been parcel of the great possessions of the above Boltons, and having passed into the Lister family by the above marriage in the reign of King Edward II." His great-grandson, Thomas, was the ancestor of Lord Ribblesdale. The fifteenth, however, in lineal descent, from the acknowledged founder of the noble house of Lister, was

Thomas Lister, Esq., of Gisburne Park, great-grandfather of the present peer. He was born in 1688; and, on the death of his father, Thomas, in 1708, during his minority, he succeeded to the family

estates. In 1710, he was elected M.P. for the borough of Clithero; for which place he sat afterwards in the several successive parliaments of 1713, 1715, 1722, 1727, 1734, and 1741, till his death, in 1745. He married, in 1716, Catherine, daughter and coheirress of Sir Ralph Asheton, of Whalley, Bart., by whom he had two sons: Thomas, his successor; and Nathaniel, who, purchasing Armitage Park, in the county of Stafford, settled there, and was M.P. for Clithero, from 1761 to 1773.

Thomas, the eldest son, was born in 1723. On his father's death, in 1745, he was elected his successor in the representation of the borough of Clithero; for which place he was again chosen at the general elections in 1747, 1754, and 1761. He married Beatrix, daughter of Jessop Hulton, of Hulton Park, in the county of Lancaster, Esq., by whom he had a son and two daughters. Dying in 1761, he was succeeded by his son,

Thomas, D.C.L., Colonel of the Craven Legion, and first Lord Ribblesdale. He was born on the 22d of March, 1752; he married, in 1789, Rebecca, daughter of Joseph Fielding, Esq., of the kingdom of Ireland (by Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher Jackson, Esq., of the county of

Nottingham); and, on the 26th of October, 1797, His Majesty, George III., was graciously pleased to confer upon him the dignity of the peerage, by the title of Baron Ribblesdale, of Gisburne Park, in the county of York. By his lady (who died on the 21st of May, 1816) his Lordship had an only son, Thomas, the present peer; and two daughters: Catherine, born on the 23d of December, 1793, married, *first*, on the 4th of September, 1810, to James Skurray Day, of Burnett, in the county of Somerset, Esq.; *secondly*, in December, 1817, to the Rev. John Fleming Parker, son of the late John Parker, of Browsholme Hall, in the county of York, Esq.;—and Rebecca Adelaide, born on the 31st of August, 1800.—Dying on the 22d of September, 1826, his Lordship was succeeded by his son,

Thomas, second Baron Ribblesdale. His Lordship was born on the 23d of January, 1790. On the 9th of February, 1826, he married his cousin Adelaide, daughter of Thomas Lister, of Armitage Park, in the county of Stafford, Esq., second son of Nathaniel Lister, Esq., by his wife, Martha, daughter and co-heirress of John Fletcher, of Lichfield, Esq., who died on the 28th of December, 1793.